

System to Administer Retirement

November 2004

The STAR Bulletin is a newsletter designed for District of Columbia annuitants in the Judges', Teachers', Police Officers' and Firefighters' retirement plans. The STAR Bulletin's mission is to give you information, highlight current events, and keep you up-to-date on STAR and your retirement. We hope this Bulletin is informative for you.



The Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Public Debt (BPD), will issue a Form 1099-R covering your annuity earnings from January 2004 to December 2004. Be on the lookout in February 2005 for a white envelope stamped 'Important Tax Return **Document Enclosed.**' If you have any questions, please see the **Contact Information** box below for your contact point.

- If you receive more than one annuity (for example you are a retiree and the survivor of a retiree), you will receive one Form 1099-R for EACH annuity.
- ALL Form 1099-Rs will be mailed by January 30, 2005.
- You will need your Form 1099-R to file your income tax return.



We want to stay in touch with you! Was this document mailed to your correct address or forwarded to you? If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please let us know. It is important that we have your correct address on record so you can receive important documents without delay. Please send your corrections to the address listed in the Contact Information box below.



Your monthly Earnings Statement includes important information regarding your retirement benefits. We recommend that you review it closely each month. Now is a good time to review the tax withholding information in your Earnings Statement. If you want to update your tax information, send a new W-4P to the contact listed below.



- Judges: Your cost of living adjustment is effective December 1, 2004 and will be in your January 3, 2005 annuity payment.
- Firefighters: Your equalization was effective on November 1, 2004. You should see the increase in your December 1, 2004 annuity payment.
- We are working to bring all annuitants and survivors into STAR in 2005. We will keep you informed of our progress and improvements that are coming your way.



## **Retirement Questions & Changes**

**Judges** – STAR@do.treas.gov

Teacher, Police, and Firefighters – (202) 727-5851 or (800) 638-6182

Office of Pay and Retirement Services 410 E Street, NW - Room 200 Washington, DC 20001

## **STAR Questions**

**Email:** STAR@do.treas.gov



## Important Information



- The Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season will run from November 8, 2004 to December 13, 2004. Changes requested during Open Season will be effective January 1, 2005 and will be reflected in your February 1, 2005 annuity payment. You should have already received information on the plans and changes. If you have not, please contact the Office of Pay and Retirement Services at the address listed in the **Contact Information** box.
- For those of you with District Health Benefits, Open Season is expected during the first part of 2005.